



Office of the Secretary
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Bobby Jindal, Governor
Sherri H. LeBas, P.E., Secretary

June 26, 2013

All Contractors, Consultants and Vendors enrolled with DOTD

RE: Hudson Initiative Program

Please review the information below to determine if your firm is eligible to participate in the Louisiana Initiative for Small Entrepreneurships, known as the Hudson Initiative.

➤ **ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION?**

- Are you a Louisiana domiciled business?
- Do you have less than fifty (50) full-time employees?
- Are your annual gross revenue receipts \$5,000,000 or less (for construction) or \$3,000,000 or less (for non-construction) for each of the previous 3 tax years?

➤ **WHAT IS THE SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM?**

This Small Entrepreneurship Program (also known as the Hudson Initiative) was created by Act 440 during the 2005 Regular Legislative Session to provide additional opportunities for Louisiana based small entrepreneurships to participate in contracting and procurement with the State of Louisiana. Key features of the program are:

- This is a goal-oriented program
- It is race and gender neutral
- Participation is restricted to Louisiana-based certified Small Entrepreneurships

➤ **WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?**

Certification is required for your participation in the Small Entrepreneurship Program. In addition, this is one of the methods that the State of Louisiana will utilize as a basis for benchmarking for annualized procurement and contracting goals.

➤ **WHAT AGENCY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION?**

The Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) is responsible for certifying Small Entrepreneurships for participation in the program. Refer to the (LED) Small Business

Hudson Initiative Program

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Certification System at <http://www.ledsmallbiz.com> for further information as well as a copy of the Application Form for Certification as a Small Entrepreneurship. For additional information regarding certification, please contact LED at (225) 342-3000.

The Department of Transportation and Development is committed to the success of this program and encourages your participation.

Very truly yours,



for

Sherri H. LeBas, P.E.
Secretary



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RE: Veteran Initiative

Please review the information below to determine if your firm is eligible to participate in the Veteran Initiative.

➤ **ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION?**

- Are you a veteran-owned small entrepreneurship or a service-connected disabled veteran-owned small entrepreneurship in accordance with documentation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs?
- Are you a Louisiana domiciled business?
- Do you have less than fifty (50) full-time employees?
- Are your annual gross revenue receipts \$5,000,000 or less (for construction) or \$3,000,000 for (non-construction) for each of the previous 3 tax years?

If your answers are yes, your company may be eligible for participation in the Louisiana Veteran-Owned and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Entrepreneurship Program, also known as the Veteran Initiative.

➤ **WHAT IS THE VETERAN INITIATIVE?**

The Veteran Initiative, created by LRS 39:2171 through 2179 and LRS 51:931, provides additional opportunities for certified Louisiana-based small entrepreneurships to participate in contracting and procurement with the State. Key features of the program are:

- This is a goal-oriented program
- It is race and gender neutral
- Participation is restricted to Louisiana-based certified veteran-owned and service connected disabled veteran-owned small entrepreneurships

The rules governing the implementation of the program are located at
<http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/se/se.htm>

➤ **WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?**

Certification is required for your participation in the Veteran Initiative. Under this program, you may be given increased opportunity to participate in Louisiana state contracts. Certain contracts may be awarded to your business without competition. And, certification is one of the methods that the State of Louisiana will utilize as a basis for benchmarking for annualized procurement and contracting goals.

➤ **WHAT AGENCY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION?**

The Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) is responsible for certifying Small entrepreneurships for participation in the program. The (LED) Small Business Certification System may be accessed at <https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index2.asp>. For additional information regarding certification, please contact LED at (225) 342-3000.

➤ **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS?**

The Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs is responsible for disseminating information on this program and other veterans' benefits to Louisiana veterans. Information on this program and other veterans' benefits can be accessed at www.vetaffairs.la.gov.

The Department of Transportation and Development is committed to the success of this program and encourages our participation.

Very truly yours,


for Sherri H. LeBas, P.E.
Secretary